**ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH, WOODLAND, MI**

**Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost, August 30, 2020**

**\*If you are joining us in person, please tune your radio to 1620 AM**

**ANNOUNCEMENTS & PRELUDE**

**Gathering**

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

**Confession and Forgiveness**

In the name of the Father,

and of the ☩ Son,

and of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that we may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**Amen.**

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another. Most merciful God,

**we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name.** **Amen.**

In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the ☩ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

**Gathering Song“O Jesus, I Have Promised” (ELW 810)**



**GREETING**

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**And also with you.**

**Prayer of the Day**

Let us pray together.

**O God, we thank you for your Son, who chose the path of suffering for the sake of the world. Humble us by his example, point us to the path of obedience, and give us strength to follow your commands, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

### First Reading    Jeremiah 15:15-21

A reading from Jeremiah.

15O Lord, you know;  
  remember me and visit me,  
  and bring down retribution for me on my persecutors.  
 In your forbearance do not take me away;  
  know that on your account I suffer insult.  
 16Your words were found, and I ate them,  
  and your words became to me a joy  
  and the delight of my heart;  
 for I am called by your name,  
  O Lord, God of hosts.  
 17I did not sit in the company of merrymakers,  
  nor did I rejoice;  
 under the weight of your hand I sat alone,  
  for you had filled me with indignation.  
 18Why is my pain unceasing,  
  my wound incurable,  
  refusing to be healed?  
 Truly, you are to me like a deceitful brook,  
  like waters that fail.  
  
 19Therefore thus says the Lord:  
 If you turn back, I will take you back,  
  and you shall stand before me.  
 If you utter what is precious, and not what is worthless,  
  you shall serve as my mouth.  
 It is they who will turn to you,  
  not you who will turn to them.  
 20And I will make you to this people  
  a fortified wall of bronze;  
 they will fight against you,  
  but they shall not prevail over you,  
 for I am with you  
  to save you and deliver you,  
 says the Lord.  
 21I will deliver you out of the hand of the wicked,  
  and redeem you from the grasp of the ruthless.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**Psalm Psalm 26:1-8**

1Give judgment for me, O Lord, for I have lived | with integrity;  
  I have trusted in the Lord and | have not faltered.  
 2**Test me, O | Lord, and try me;**  
  **examine my heart | and my mind.**  
 3For your steadfast love is be- | fore my eyes;  
  I have walked faithful- | ly with you.  
 4**I have not sat | with the worthless,**  
  **nor do I consort with | the deceitful.** R  
 5I have hated the company of | evildoers;  
  I will not sit down | with the wicked.  
 6**I will wash my hands in inno- | cence, O Lord,**  
  **that I may go in procession | round your altar,**  
 7singing aloud a song | of thanksgiving  
  and recounting all your won- | derful deeds.  
 8**Lord, I love the house in | which you dwell**  
  **and the place where your glo- | ry abides.**

**Second Reading**  **Romans 12:9-21**

A reading from Romans.

9Let love be genuine; hate what is evil, hold fast to what is good; 10love one another with mutual affection; outdo one another in showing honor. 11Do not lag in zeal, be ardent in spirit, serve the Lord. 12Rejoice in hope, be patient in suffering, persevere in prayer. 13Contribute to the needs of the saints; extend hospitality to strangers.  
  14Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them. 15Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep. 16Live in harmony with one another; do not be haughty, but associate with the lowly; do not claim to be wiser than you are. 17Do not repay anyone evil for evil, but take thought for what is noble in the sight of all. 18If it is possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all. 19Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave room for the wrath of God; for it is written, “Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord.” 20No, “if your enemies are hungry, feed them; if they are thirsty, give them something to drink; for by doing this you will heap burning coals on their heads.” 21Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**Gospel** **Matthew 16:21-28**

The holy gospel according to Matthew.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

21From that time on, [after Peter confessed that Jesus was the Messiah,] Jesus began to show his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and undergo great suffering at the hands of the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and on the third day be raised. 22And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him, saying, “God forbid it, Lord! This must never happen to you.” 23But he turned and said to Peter, “Get behind me, Satan! You are a stumbling block to me; for you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things.”  
  24Then Jesus told his disciples, “If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. 25For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it. 26For what will it profit them if they gain the whole world but forfeit their life? Or what will they give in return for their life?  
  27“For the Son of Man is to come with his angels in the glory of his Father, and then he will repay everyone for what has been done. 28Truly I tell you, there are some standing here who will not taste death before they see the Son of Man coming in his kingdom.”

The gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

**SERMON Pastor Becky Ebb-Speese**

**Hymn of the Day “Jesus, Still Lead On” (ELW 624)**



**CREED**

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,**

**creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God’s only Son, our Lord,**

**who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,**

**born of the virgin Mary,**

**suffered under Pontius Pilate,**

**was crucified, died, and was buried;**

**he descended to the dead.\***

**On the third day he rose again;**

**he ascended into heaven,**

**he is seated at the right hand of the Father,**

**and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,**

**the holy catholic church,**

**the communion of saints,**

**the forgiveness of sins,**

**the resurrection of the body,**

**and the life everlasting. Amen.**

\*Or, “he descended into hell,” another translation of this text in widespread use.

**Prayers of Intercession**

Confident of your care and helped by the Holy Spirit, we pray for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

*A brief silence.*

God of faithfulness, you bid your people to follow Jesus. Set the mind of your church on divine things. Grant us trust in you, that we lose our lives for the sake of Christ and thereby discover joy in life through him. We pray especially for Faith Lutheran Church and Rev. John Autio. Lord, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

God of wonder, the earth is yours and all that is in it. Heal your creation and give us eyes to see the world as you do. As the seasons change, pattern the rhythm of our lives in harmony with all creation. Lord, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

God of all nations, you call us to live peaceably with all. Give us ears to hear one another, even those we name as enemies. Fill all leaders with mercy and understanding, that they advocate and genuinely care for those who are poor and most vulnerable in their communities. Lord, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

God of salvation, you promise to deliver us. Give those who suffer a strong sense of your presence and love. Accompany those who are uncertain, raise the spirits of those who are despairing, and heal the sick. Lord, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

God of community, you call us to rejoice in hope, be patient in suffering, and persevere in prayer. Make our congregation a workshop of your love. When we quarrel, bring reconciliation. Help us overcome evil with good. Lord, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

God of all grace, you give us everlasting life. In love we recall your holy ones who now live in your undying light. In our remembering, give us a foretaste of the feast to come. Lord, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

In the certain hope that nothing can separate us from your love, we offer these prayers to you; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

**Peace**

The peace of Christ be with you always.

**And also with you.**

**Offering**

**Offering Prayer**

Let us pray. God our provider, you have not fed us with bread alone, but with words of grace and life. Bless us and these your gifts, which we receive from your bounty, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

**Thanksgiving at the Table**

In the night in which he was betrayed,

our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;

broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:

Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.

Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,

and gave it for all to drink, saying:

This cup is the new covenant in my blood,

shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.

Do this for the remembrance of me.

**Lord’s Prayer**

Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

**Our Father, who art in heaven,**

**hallowed be thy name,**

**thy kingdom come,**

**thy will be done,**

**on earth as it is in heaven.**

**Give us this day our daily bread;**

**and forgive us our trespasses,**

**as we forgive those**

**who trespass against us;**

**and lead us not into temptation,**

**but deliver us from evil.**

**For thine is the kingdom,**

**and the power, and the glory,**

**forever and ever. Amen.**

**COMMUNION**

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ is given and shed for you. You may receive your communion elements.

**Sending**

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

**Blessing**

The God of steadfastness and encouragement

grant you to live in harmony with one another,

in accordance with Christ Jesus.

**Amen.**

The God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing,

so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

The God of all grace ☩ bless you now and forever.

**Amen.**

**Sending SonG “Let Us Ever Walk with Jesus” (ELW 802)**



**Dismissal**

Go in peace. Christ is with you.

**Thanks be to God.**

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**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

* **The church now has a PO Box.** Please update the church’s address to

Zion Lutheran Church, PO Box 14, Woodland MI 48897

* **New: Bring a Chair – Sit Outside!** You may now bring a chair and sit outside if you would prefer rather than remaining in your car. There will be three parking spaces left open in the front row that you can use. You are also welcome to put your chairs on the lawn or in front of your vehicle.  We ask that you maintain proper social distancing when selecting your place to sit and that masks be worn when you exit your vehicle. Once seated, you may remove your mask or leave your mask on. When service has concluded, please wear your mask when you return to your vehicle.If you have any questions, please talk with any of the parking assistants when you arrive.See you Sunday!
* **“Prayer in the Park”** A community wide “Prayer in the Park” is scheduled for September 12 at 6 PM in the Lake Odessa Park. This will be a time of praise and worship along with prayers for our government, media, arts and entertainment, businesses, education, religious, family, and repentance.
* Lawn Mowing: September is open for anyone able to help with mowing the parsonage and church lawns. Please contact Tom Krikke if you can mow.
  + We are still in need of volunteers to be Bible Buddies! The boards of youth/education are working on pairing adults with our children and youth as Bible Buddies. We have close to 30 children and youth connected to Zion. This is not a hard task. If you are willing to send cards or notes with words of encouragement and sharing Bible verses to one or two of our children and teens, wonderful intergenerational relationships can be developed. Please contact Tara if you are interested.